

Court Denies Mrs. Hucks Free Appeal

By John P. MacKenzie
Staff Reporter

District Court Judge Edward A. Tamm refused yesterday to allow Sally Hucks, convicted in a plot to shield Teamster Union officials from Senate scrutiny, to appeal at Government expense.

The Judge said Mrs. Hucks, 44, former chief telephone operator at the Woodner, was "completely lacking in credibility" when she swore to a pauper's oath.

From her testimony at the 6-week trial, Judge Tamm said, he did not feel that Mrs. Hucks' "affidavit, or other word, is worthy of any degree of credence." He said he "seriously doubts that this defendant is, in fact, a pauper."

Mrs. Hucks' attorney, Benedict F. FitzGerald Jr. asked for a cost-free appeal and a free transcript. But Judge Tamm said he now regretted letting Mrs. Hucks proceed as a pauper at the trial itself. That privilege was based on "the Court's acceptance of the truth of defendant's representations" of poverty, he said.

Mrs. Hucks was convicted of plotting to obstruct a Senate Rackets Committee probe of Teamster affairs by tampering with hotel records of union telephone calls under subpoena. A jury also convicted her of perjury before the Committee by denying having a mink stole which the prosecution charged was a Teamster gift.

The Judge sentenced Mrs. Hucks to 20 months to five years in jail, and ordered a suspended sentence for co-defendant Moss Herman, 61, a former Teamster. Judge Tamm said he had "no doubt" that Mrs. Hucks' appeal would raise substantial legal questions.

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